

DATE: 18 August 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #1, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

000037



## I. SITUATION

- A. Received a request by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) @ 1100, on Friday, 16 August 1985 to investigate an underground fire located in south Chicago.
- B. Arrived on site @ 1215, Friday, 16 August 1985. After a thorough site inspection and discussion with IEPA and the Chicago Fire Dept., all parties concurred that emergency action should be taken. Verbal permission was granted by the Regional Administrator to proceed with the emergency removal action.
- C. Smoke was discovered in three areas on the site. The locations of the fires were: north central, south central and south portion of the site.
- D. Attempts to distinguish the underground fire with foam was unsuccessful on 16 August 1985.
- E. Air monitoring program for the residential area around the site was initiated on 16 August 1985. Results from air monitoring program did not detected any toxic chemicals. Air quality will be monitored every three hours (around the clock, seven days a week).
- F. Approximate cost through 17 August 1985:

Contractor	\$ 28,000
TAT Cost	1,420
EPA Cost	690
TOTAL	<hr/> \$ 30,110

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Cap the two south fire areas with clay.
- B. Continue air monitoring program.
- C. Initiate temperature monitoring program on the fire areas after these areas have been capped with clay.
- D. Initiate infrared overflights.

## II. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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DATE: 20 August 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #2, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

## I. SITUATION

- A. Both south end fires were capped with clay on 19 August 1985.
- B. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- C. Approximate cost through 19 August 1985:

Contractor	\$ 49,600
TAT Cost	2,070
EPA Cost	1,020
TOTAL	<u>\$ 52,690</u>

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Cap the two south fire areas with clay.
- B. Continue air monitoring program.
- C. Initiate temperature monitoring program on the fire areas after these areas have been capped with clay.
- D. Initiate infrared overflights.

## II. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

DATE: 26 August 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #3, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

## I. SITUATION

- A. Temperature monitoring program was initiated on 22 August 1985. Temperature readings on three fire areas are decreasing.
- B. Infrared overflights were performed on 20 and 25 August 1985. Results from infrared overflights indicated diminishing fire intensity in all three fire areas. Another area directly west of the south central fire area was detected by infrared overflights as a potential fire problem.
- C. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- D. Approximate cost through 25 August 1985:

Contractor	\$ 67,400
TAT Cost	4,300
EPA Cost	2,300
TOTAL	<u>\$ 74,000</u>

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Cap the additional area with clay.
- B. Continue air monitoring program.
- C. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- D. Continue with bi-weekly infrared overflights.

## III. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

DATE: 2 September 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #4, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

## I. SITUATION

- A. The fire area as indicated by infrared overflights was capped with clay on 28 August 1985.
- B. Infrared overflight performed on 29 August 1985, and the result from infrared overflight indicated diminishing fire intensity all fire areas.
- C. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- D. Approximate cost through 1 September 1985:

Contractor	\$ 83,500
TAT Cost	14,100
EPA Cost	3,910
TOTAL	<u>\$ 101,490</u>

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Continue air monitoring program.
- B. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- C. Continue with bi-weekly infrared overflights.

## III. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

DATE: 7 September 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #5, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

## I. SITUATION

- A. Infrared overflight performed on 3 September 1985, and the result from infrared overflight indicated diminishing fire intensity at all fire areas.
- B. Results from temperature monitoring probes indicated that the fire is diminishing.
- C. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- D. Approximate cost through 6 September 1985:

Contractor	\$ 93,300
TAT Cost	30,900
EPA Cost	29,300
TOTAL	<u>\$ 153,500</u>

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Continue air monitoring program.
- B. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- C. Continue with periodic infrared overflights.

## III. STATUS

- A. Situation pending

DATE: 14 September 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #6, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

## I. SITUATION

- A. Infrared overflight performed on 11 September 1985, and the result from infrared overflight indicated diminishing fire intensity at all fire areas.
- B. Results from temperature monitoring probes indicated that the fire is diminishing.
- C. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- D. Approximate cost through 13 September 1985:

Contractor	\$ 112,600
TAT Cost	36,800
EPA Cost	44,900
TOTAL	<u>\$ 194,300</u>

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Continue air monitoring program.
- B. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- C. Continue with periodic infrared overflights.

## III. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

DATE: 21 September 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #7, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

#### I. SITUATION

- A. Results from temperature monitoring probes indicated that the fire is diminishing.
- B. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- C. Approximate cost through 20 September 1985:

Contractor	\$ 139,900
TAT Cost	40,400
EPA Cost	48,200
TOTAL	<u>\$ 228,500</u>

#### II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Continue air monitoring program.
- B. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- C. Continue with periodic infrared overflights.

#### II. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

DATE: 28 September 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #8, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

#### I. SITUATION

- A. Results from temperature monitoring probes indicated that the fire is diminishing.
- B. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- C. Approximate cost through 27 September 1985:

Contractor	\$ 156,200
TAT Cost	45,300
EPA Cost	49,100
TOTAL	<u>\$ 250,600</u>

#### II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Continue air monitoring program.
- B. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- C. Continue with periodic infrared overflights.

#### II. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.



DATE: 5 October 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #9, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

## I. SITUATION

- A. Infrared overflight performed on 28 September 1985, and the result from infrared overflight indicated diminishing fire intensity at all fire areas.
- B. Results from temperature monitoring probes indicated that the fire is diminishing.
- C. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- D. Approximate cost through 4 October 1985:

Contractor	\$ 161,300
TAT Cost	48,200
EPA Cost	52,700
TOTAL	<u>\$ 262,200</u>

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Continue air monitoring program.
- B. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- C. Continue with periodic infrared overflights.

## II. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

DATE: 12 October 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #10, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

## I. SITUATION

- A. Parparation for the removal of shock sensitive drums on the railroad embankment started on 8 October 1985.
- B. Results form temperature monitoring probes indicated that the fire is almost out.
- C. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- C. Approximate cost through 11 October 1985:

Contractor	\$ 207,098
TAT Cost	52,313
EPA Cost	53,409
TOTAL	<u>\$ 312,840</u>

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Initiate removal of the shock sensitive drums from the railroad embankment,
- A. Continue air monitoring program.
- B. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- C. Continue with periodic infrared overflights.

## II. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

DATE: 19 October 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #11, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

## I. SITUATION

- A. Excavated over 600 feet of the railroad embankment. Over 40 drums were removed. Encountered only one non-shock sensitive lab-pack drum.
- B. Results from temperature monitoring probes indicated that the fire is out.
- C. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- C. Approximate cost through 18 October 1985:

Contractor	\$ 249,619
TAT Cost	58,323
EPA Cost	56,469
TOTAL	<u>\$ 364,421</u>

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Continue with the railroad embankment excavation.
- A. Continue air monitoring program.
- B. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- C. Continue with periodic infrared overflights.

## II. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

DATE: 26 October 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #12, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

## I. SITUATION

- A. Excavated over 1300 feet of the railroad embankment. Over 60 drums were removed. Encountered only one non-shock sensitive lab-pack drum.
- B. Results from temperature monitoring probes indicated that the fire is out.
- C. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- C. Approximate cost through 25 October 1985:

Contractor	\$ 305,150
TAT Cost	65,150
EPA Cost	56,900
TOTAL	<u>\$ 427,200</u>

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Continue with the railroad embankment excavation.
- A. Continue air monitoring program.
- B. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- C. Continue with periodic infrared overflights.

## II. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

DATE: 2 November 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #13, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERPB, ORC, Public Affairs

## I. SITUATION

- A. Excavated over 1500 feet of the railroad embankment. Over 60 drums were removed. Encountered only one non-shock sensitive lab-pack drum.
- B. A test ditch 600 feet long, 15-20 feet wide and 20-25 feet deep was dug at the base of the railroad embankment. Soil and water sample from the test ditch consist high organic vapor was sent for analysis.
- C. Results from temperature monitoring probes indicated that the fire is out.
- D. Results from air monitoring program did not indicate presence of toxic chemicals.
- E. Approximate cost through 1 November 1985:

Contractor	\$ 337,800
TAT Cost	68,800
EPA Cost	58,200
TOTAL	<u>\$ 464,800</u>

## II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Backfill the railroad embankment.
- A. Continue air monitoring program.
- B. Continue temperature monitoring program on the fire areas.
- C. Continue with periodic infrared overflights.

## II. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.

DATE: 10 December 1985  
SUBJECT: POLREP #14, Emergency Removal at U.S. Scrap, Chicago, IL  
TO: Robert J. Bowden, Chief  
Western Response Section  
FROM: Briand C. Wu, OSC  
cc: WMB, ERRB, ORC, Public Affairs

#### I. SITUATION

- A. All wastes drummed and prepared for disposal.
- B. Demobilization of equipment and personnel completed.
- C. Approximate cost through 9 December 1985:

Contractor	\$ 436,000
TAT Cost	76,000
EPA Cost	62,000
TOTAL	<u>\$ 594,000</u>

#### II. FUTURE PLANS

- A. Await sample results and disposal decision.

#### II. STATUS

- A. Situation pends.